जहां तक कंसेप्चुअल क्लेरिटी की बात है, मैं डॉ. मनमोहन सिंह जी के भाषण का ही एक अंश सदन के सामने प्रस्तुत करना चाहता हूं। "We are in favour of continuing the dialogue with Pakistan to resolve all outstanding issues, even though we must agree that this dialogue cannot make much progress, if Pakistan remains committed to the single-minded pursuit of its sponsoring cross-border terrorism, as it is doing now. ... We must convince Pakistan that its nefarious design will never be allowed to succeed. At the same time, to the people of Pakistan, we must also project a new vision of our common, shared, destiny, that if they forget the logic of "Two-Nation" theory, our two countries can look forward to a very, very bright future". मैं इन शब्दों को डाक्टर मनमोहन सिंह से उधार लेना चाहता हूं। उनके भाषण से उधार लेकर मैं इन्हें अपने भाषण का अंश बनाना चाहता हूं। यह हमारी परिकल्पना है। हमारी और आपकी परिकल्पना एक है। छोटी-मोटी बातों पर मतभेद होगा, यह लोकतंत्र में चलता है लेकिन जहां तक जम्मू-कश्मीर का सवाल है, सारा देश एक है, सारी संसद एक है। यह दुनिया ने देखा है और भविष्य में भी देखेगी, ऐसा मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है। धन्यवाद।

RE: FIRE ACCIDENT AT KATPADI IN TAMIL NADU

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU (Pondicherry): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in Tamil Nadu about 50 persons died in a fire accident. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, more than 50 persons died at Katpadi in Tamil Nadu due to fire. I request the hon. Home Minister to make a statement in the House in regard to that. The Members of this House want to know the reason for the fire. The hon. Home Minister may look into this matter and make a statement in this House today. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH PRADHAN (Maharashtra) : Sir, I associate myself with what he has stated. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, the State Government will take cognizance of it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Sir, it is not a question of taking cognizance. It is not petty politics. A pathetic incident took place in Tamil Nadu. Fifty persons died in a fire accident. This House wants to know what happened to the injured persons and what was the reason for the fire. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, there are no politics. Cutting across party lines, Members want to know what happened. ...*(Interruptions)*... Even the Leader of the Opposition would accept it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. SOUNDARARAJAN (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, the Tamil Nadu Assembly is in session. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Sir, there are no politics. This is the Council of States. It can be discussed here. ...*(Interruptions)*... This being the Council of States, we want to know the reason for the fire and how many people actually died. ...*(Interruptions)*... The hon. Minister can make a *suo motu* statement..*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Sir, let the hon. Home Minister make a *suo motu* statement today itself. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Sir, I support him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up the Short Duration Discussion on the economic issue. Shri Chitharanjan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Sir, I want a reply from the hon. Home Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... You may kindly give him some direction. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot give him any direction. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: The hon. Home Minister may give an assurance to the House that he will look into the matter and make a statement. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Sir, this is the Council of States. This is not a State issue. Fifty persons died.

SHRI P. SOUNDARARAJAN: Sir, the Tamil Nadu Assembly is in session. Whatever the DMK people want to raise, they can raise there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Sir, we want a *suo motu* statement from the hon. Home Minister. The Home Minister can respond to it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Sir, we are getting statements on railway accidents. We are getting statements on ordinary issues. There was a fire accident and more than 50 people died. Let him ascertain from the Government of Tamil Nadu the facts and make a statement in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Sir, this is the concern of the House. This is the Council of States. The hon. Home Minister may respond to this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Sir, the State Assembly is in session. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot give him any direction. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Sir, we want to know what really happened and how many people died. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Mr. Chairman, I will be guided by you as to what kind of an issue needs a statement from the Government. It is true that this is a bad fire. But if it needs a statement from the Government, we will certainly find out from the State Government. But I will be guided by you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I leave it to you. I don't want to give you any guidance.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I have no objection because in all such matters if something occurs in a State, what is it that makes it imperative for the Government of India to make a statement?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Government should take its own decision. I will not tell them.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I will take note of this advice. I will find out what exactly is the position.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Home Minister has said that he will find out the facts and do whatever is suitable.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Economic slowdown, fall in GDP rate and deteriorating financial condition of the country in the context of mid-term appraisal of Ninth Five Year Plan.

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN (Kerala): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to raise a discussion on the economic slowdown, fall in GDP rate and deteriorating financial condition of the country in the context of the mid-term appraisal of the Ninth Five Year Plan. Our economy is facing a slowdown for the last four years. Now it turns into a recession. This happens in a period when a